

THE  
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF  
THE BROOKLYN LIBRARY.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF  
THE BROOKLYN LIBRARY.

PLEASE EXCHANGE

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BROOKLYN, N. Y.  
PRINTED FOR THE LIBRARY.

1885.

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*Recording,*  
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Treasurer,  
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[VACANCY.]

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W. A. BARDWELL.

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JAMES H. FROTHINGHAM.

# REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

*To the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Library :*

The Trustees submit the following report of the finances of the Institution for the current year, ending February 28th, 1885 :

## TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Cr. Balance February 29, 1884.....		\$2,553 86
Endowment Fund Subscription .....		100 00
Interest on Deposits.....		16 78
"    "    Mortgage, including interest ad- vanced, \$60.67... ..		455 00
Gross Income from No. 193 Montague street.		2,674 96
"    "    No. 201 Montague street.		3,636 62
		<hr/>
		\$9,437 22
Dr. General Expense Account .....	\$106 00	
Expense Account No. 193 Montague street..	151 51	
"    "    No. 201    "    "    "	295 76	
Special Art Fund, on account, for portrait...	1,000 00	
Payments to Board of Directors, viz. :		
Income of White Fund .....	1,500 00	
"    Martin Fund.....	600 00	
"    Cary Bequest .....	300 00	
"    General Funds.....	3,437 92	
Appropriation for Safe ....	315 00	
	<hr/>	
		7,706 19
		<hr/>
Balance February 28, 1885.....		\$1,731 03
		<hr/> <hr/>

The GENERAL EXPENSE item of \$106.00 consists entirely of Water Rates paid to the Department of City Works.

The SPECIAL ART FUND item represents a payment to Mr. Eastman Johnson, on account, for his portrait of Hon. Simeon B. Chittenden, recently painted for the Library.

THE INCOME ACCOUNTS OF THE OFFICE BUILDINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS :

*No. 193 Montague Street.*

Gross Rentals collected .....		\$2,674 96
Less Gas.....	\$26 60	
Repairs .....	58 04	
Commissions .....	66 87	
	<hr/>	
		151 51
		<hr/>
Balance net income .....		\$2,523 45
		<hr/> <hr/>



*No. 201 Montague Street.*

Gross Rentals collected . . . . .		\$3,636 62
Less Gas . . . . .	\$29 00	
Repairs . . . . .	175 84	
Commissions . . . . .	90 92	
	<u>295 76</u>	
Balance net income . . . . .		\$3,340 86

The present rent-roll is \$6,290. There are no vacant offices, and no arrears of present tenants.

## THE GENERAL INCOME ACCOUNT STANDS AS FOLLOWS :

Dr. Balance February 29, 1884 . . . . .	\$696 33
General Expenses, Water Rates . . . . .	106 00
Payments to James L. Morgan, Jr., Treasurer, viz. :	
For Income of Special Funds . . . . .	2,400 00
For Income of General Funds . . . . .	3,437 92
	<u>\$6,640 25</u>
Cr. Balance Income Account, No. 193 Montague st. .	\$2,523 45
“ “ “ No. 201 Montague st. .	3,340 86
Interest received on Deposits . . . . .	16 78
“ “ “ Mortgage . . . . .	394 33
	<u>6,275 42</u>
Dr. Balance February 28, 1885 . . . . .	\$364 83

NOTE.—The above balance represents Insurance Premium paid in advance to March 1 and December 28, 1886, on the Library property.

An additional payment of \$100 has been made during the year for account of the Permanent Endowment Fund Subscription, increasing the total payment to \$82,525, and a further appropriation has been made, within the terms of the subscription, of \$315, for the purchase of a much needed and capacious fire-proof safe. There remains unappropriated the sum of \$2,095.86.

## THE BALANCE SHEET of the Trustees is as follows :

Cash . . . . .	\$1,731 03	
Investment Account . . . . .	600 00	
Mortgage Investment . . . . .	7,000 00	
Real Estate, No. 193 Montague street . . . . .	37,000 00	
“ Library . . . . .	151,863 45	
“ No. 201 Montague street . . . . .	32,814 76	
Furniture and Fixtures . . . . .	11,087 89	
General Income Account . . . . .	364 83	
Building Fund . . . . .		\$169,161 00
Book Fund . . . . .		587 50
General Fund . . . . .		30,617 60
Endowment Fund Subscription, Balance . . . . .		2,095 86
White Fund . . . . .		25,000 00
Martin Fund . . . . .		10,000 00
Cary Bequest . . . . .		5,000 00
	<u>\$242,461 96</u>	<u>\$242,461 96</u>

The INSURANCES upon Library Property remain unchanged, and are as follows :

On Library Building.....	\$80,000 00
Books, etc ..	70,000 00
Furniture and Fixtures .....	7,500 00
No. 193 Montague street.....	20,000 00
No. 201 Montague street.....	20,000 00
Total .....	<u>\$197,500 00</u>

Of these amounts, \$177,500 will expire March 1, 1886, and \$20,000 December 28, 1886.

Which is respectfully submitted, by order and on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

(Signed,)

JAMES H. FROTHINGHAM,

*Treasurer.*

BROOKLYN, March 12, 1885.

Examined and found correct,

(Signed,)

JAMES P. WALLACE,

ADRIAN VAN SINDEREN,

} *Auditing Committee.*

# TREASURER'S REPORT.

DR. JAMES L. MORGAN, JR., Treasurer,

In Account with

THE BROOKLYN LIBRARY,

CR.

To Balance, March 1, 1884.....	\$478 60
“ Receipts from Annual Members :—	
Initiation Fees.....	\$776 00
Dues.....	10,791 37
	11,567 37
To Receipts from Board of Trustees :—	
Current Income of Martin Fund..	600 00
Current Income of White Fund...	1,500 00
Current Income of General Fund..	3,437 92
Current Income of Cary Bequest...	300 00
Appropriation for Safe .....	315 00
	6,152 92
To Receipts from Trustees of Cary Fund for Books selected by them.....	249 66
To Receipts from Classes :—	
Phonography.....	246 10
French.....	51 50
Spanish.....	12 00
German .....	32 00
Italian.....	10 00
	351 60
To Receipts from sale of	
Books and Periodicals.....	66 87
Catalogues.....	241 15
Bulletins.....	7 35
	315 37
To Donations.....	4,000 00
Sundries—Interest .....	7 42
Rent, etc.....	15 00
	22 42
To Bills Payable.....	3,000 00
	25,659 34
	\$26,137 94

By Payments for Books.....	\$5,290 80
Periodicals.....	1,827 91
Binding.....	1,683 39
Salaries.....	9,623 68
Light.....	2,724 60
Fuel.....	575 07
Building and Fixtures	751 99
Janitor and care of	
Building.....	1,321 26
Stationery and Printing	453 70
Catalogues.....	351 81
Bulletins.....	318 55
Advertising .....	319 51
Delivery to Branches..	188 55
Interest.....	108 59
Sundries .....	289 50
	586 64
	25,828 91
By Balance, March 1, 1885.....	309 03

\$26,137 94

NOTE.—The expenditures during the year on account of the Eastern District Branch were \$1,184.77. See page 28.



# TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

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The Twenty-seventh Annual Meeting of the Brooklyn Library was held in the Ladies' Reading Room of the Library on Thursday evening, March 26th, 1885, the President, Mr. W. A. White, in the Chair, and Mr. S. B. Chittenden, Jr., acting as Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer, Mr. James L. Morgan, Jr., read his report, which was, on motion, accepted.

The President then read the Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the Board of Directors, which was adopted, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

DR. ROBERT F. LEIGHTON, of the Central Grammar School, then spoke of the relation of a public library to the public schools, and said that the opening of the library to the teachers and pupils of the Grammar Schools of the city would have a very good result, as both the classes alluded to lacked books for reference to supplement their text-books. If the vast storehouse of knowledge which the library contained could be opened to the teachers and scholars, the influence would be most beneficial, and the educational value of the public school system would be largely increased. As a factor in public education the value of a public library could not be over-estimated. Any method of education is seriously at fault which does not incite the pupil to a desire for further knowledge. The pupil should be taught not only *how* to read, but *what* to read. The literary taste should be trained in the right direction in youth. A boy who has fixed a standard by reading Scott's novels or Miss Edgeworth's tales, or the works of Thackeray, Dickens or George Eliot, will never be dazzled by the "Red Rover of the Spanish Main" or the "Midnight Marriage." The object should be to cultivate a love of reading. Gibbon and Macaulay and Bancroft should not be the only books offered to the pupils, for the reason that many of them could not at first appreciate the great masterpieces of wit and eloquence and knowledge. Their minds would have to be first cultivated. Rightly used, a public library would be a great trainer of the literary taste of the youth of a city.

The library could also collect books on useful arts and trades which pupils would have access to, and they would thus be better prepared on entering life to take care of themselves, and there would be less danger of poverty and distress. It is very important to establish in youth the habit of learning intelligently and not by rote. Once acquired, this habit would be continued through life. The opening of the library to scholars would mean the end of the old method of teaching from a book, and the beginning of a new era of original thought and investigation. It might also be feasible for the teachers to take their classes occasionally to the library and instruct them in the methods of best utilizing the facilities it offers. In Boston, the experiment of utilizing the Public Library in connection with the Public Schools was first tried with a single school, and found to work so successfully, that it was subsequently extended to all.



MR. MELVIL DEWEY, Librarian of Columbia College, then spoke as follows :—

“I am interested in this meeting to-night, because I see here in this great city one of the finest opportunities on this continent to build up a great library, having, as you do, all the advantages of the metropolis. I am personally interested, too, because my own library is so near that all your development has for me an immediate and selfish interest. You stand midway between the College library, which I now represent, and the free public library, which is oftenest discussed. I am not sure but that your plans for the future may enable you to combine the advantages of both. Dr. Leighton has been saying to you the very things I had in mind to say not so well, and I would emphasize his plea, but I am no longer content to speak of the library as ‘related to the school,’ or as ‘resembling’ a college for the people. It is the crown of the school system, without which it is incomplete. It is the true university, not only of the people, but of the scholar. Of old, Paul sat at the feet of Gamaliel, and oral teaching was the main thing in education, but since that wonderful thing, a printed book, came into being, a steady change has been going forward. The best thoughts of the best thinkers on every subject find their way into print, and while we shall never be able to wholly replace the personal inspiration of an enthusiastic teacher, yet, year after year, more and more that, our fathers said, could never be put in a book, is made available in print, and the living teacher is becoming more and more a luxury rather than a necessity after the learner has been taught to read. It is even now possible to make a splendid university out of a great library, without professors but with good librarians and the most perfect catalogues, indexes, and various helps to readers; but it is wholly impracticable to make a university without the books.

“Your experience will bear me out in saying that men and women and children are more and more getting their ideas, motives and opinions from the printed page and less from the rostrum and pulpit and living voice. If we are to influence these lives and make them better worth living, we must in some way guide this reading, and this can be done generally, effectively and economically, only by means of the library. We must contrive that people read more books, better books and by better methods. With this conviction, in 1876 a hundred of the leading librarians of the country met in conference at Philadelphia. The time was ripe for such work. On the day of the first meeting, there came from Washington the first volume of the famous ‘U. S. Report on Libraries,’ a public document of 1276 pages, which was a cyclopedia to libraries. On the same day there came from New York the first number of the *Library Journal*, now in its tenth volume, and which has been to working librarians of more value than all other technical books on libraries together. Then the conference unanimously resolved itself into the American Library Association, which sums up its creed in its motto: ‘The best reading for the largest number at the least expense.’ So came into prominence what we fondly term the ‘modern library idea.’ The old school librarian was a jailer who guarded his books, often from being read: he pointed with pride to his books, kept so many years unworn, perhaps with leaves uncut: he was a literary miser. Often the office was a refuge for the incompetent who must have some place, and had been proved utterly unfitted for anything else.

“ The modern librarian is active, not passive. He is as glad to welcome a reader as the earnest merchant a customer, and a good book actually worn out with legitimate use affords him most pleasure. He magnifies his office, and recognizes in his profession an opportunity for usefulness to his fellows inferior to none.

“ Happily, there were exceptions to the first class, and of the second the numbers are all too few ; but I am speaking now of types. With such ideals, men of high grade are entering this new profession. I have in mind successful clergymen and teachers who are ready to resign good places to accept librarianships, not because the work will be easy or the salary good, for there is no field which so combines the longest hours of hardest work with inadequate pay. But it is because the clergyman sees in a library, administered on the highest plane, all the city for his parish and half the population for his congregation, and the teacher sees in such a library, classes who graduate and leave his influence only with death.

“ I know that these ideals are very high, but only he who studies this library question deeply, night and day, and in all its bearings, can comprehend its infinite possibilities.

“ We *can* educate our people through the library, and, except for the wealthy, we can't do it in the schools. The highest hope we have for our schools for the masses is that they may teach to *read*, not merely to pronounce the words like a parrot or as a bright child may be taught to call the words of Italian, or any sensibly spelled language, in a day, but to drink in the author's meaning from the printed page and reproduce the author's thoughts. If we accomplish this, we must be satisfied to let the pupils go out and earn their bread. Massachusetts is proud of its schools and the medals awarded her for progress in education, but even there illiteracy is increasing. To a country dependent on the wise use of the free ballot, such facts are startling and portend danger ahead. Whatever a man's financial standing, if his expenses each year exceed his income, bankruptcy is somewhere ahead, and if illiteracy is growing from whatever cause, it is high time the tide was checked.

“ So I say the problem before the schools is to teach the masses to read intelligently, and the library must then take up and carry on the work of education not as the ally of the schools, but as the necessary completion, the true People's University. This fact is recognized in different degrees all over the country and new libraries are springing up almost daily, indeed I think the average, small and large, will be quite as high as 365 per year. The time is coming when one will ask in every village—not : ‘ Is there a library ? ’ but ‘ *Where* is the library ? ’ As they now ask, ‘ Where is the school house or post-office ? ’ One of the best assurances that this development will go on is in the fact that people who have no interest in education or culture, are finding out that libraries *pay* selfishly, that a good library, where every workman in the city, whatever his calling, may get the best obtainable information and help about his work, will in the end vastly more than pay expenses in material wealth.

“ Your President has asked me to tell you something of our work at Columbia. Time will allow but the briefest mention of a few points, but we shall always be glad to see or give information to any of you who may be interested. We are trying to work out the modern library idea in a university library. Columbia College stands in the very centre of New York. Our building stands in the



centre of our block, surrounded by the various schools of the university, and we consolidated into this one collection the eight different libraries belonging to the College. The Library has now received the rank of a university department, and stands beside the Schools of Arts, Law, Medicine, Political Science and the various schools of Applied Sciences, and the librarian is no longer put at the end of the list of officers, next to the janitor.

“We hold that the college library should be like the college pump, accessible whenever wanted, and not, as in many colleges, for an hour or two on certain days of the week. We open all our departments from 8. A. M. to 10 P. M. throughout the year, including holidays and vacations, for often these days of customary closing are the only ones when busy men have a chance to use the library.

“We hold that double value is gotten from books that can be handled freely, and since theory and experience agree that readers trusted prove themselves worthy of confidence, we open for reference, not ten to one hundred volumes, but thirty thousand, of the most used books with which we line the walls of our great reading room.

“We hold that if it pays to give cooks and coachmen and carpenters labor-saving tools, in order to get more and better results in a given time, it will pay to give professors and students every practical aid in order that they may do more in their more valuable time, and we esteem no detail too small to merit our attention if it facilitates the work of our readers. We have convenient small study-tables, with slides and electric student lamps, rubber-tipped chairs, paper for notes, ice-water, wash-rooms, messenger and telegraph calls, check-room for coats, bags and packages, speaking-tubes, electric-bells, etc.

“If we cannot, for some years, offer the most complete equipment of books in the country, we mean speedily to offer the most perfect facilities for using such as we have, and to carry steadily forward our rapid growth, which the last report showed to be fifty times the average of the past twenty years. Gifts to the Library and use have increased in an equally marked ratio; for there are in New York, as there are in Brooklyn, plenty of men and women of influence and means who will give their interest, their books and their money to a library when they learn that it is really doing all that the best managed library can do to make itself useful.

“There is also a field of direct instruction in which we hope to do very practical work. It has often been proposed to teach college boys certain important things connected with books and their use, and in every class there are students who coax desultory hints and suggestions out of their professors. But I believe no college has yet really given the systematic instruction needed.

“Without attempting any antiquarian or technical instruction, much can be done under ‘Bibliography,’ in giving a working knowledge of what reference books there are, their comparative merits in respect to given subjects, and how to use them to the best advantage. The average college student, not to say graduate, is ignorant of the greater part of the bibliographical apparatus which the skilled librarian has in hourly use, to enable him to answer the thousand queries of the public. A little systematic instruction would so start our students in the right methods, that for the rest of their lives all their work in libraries would be more expeditiously accomplished and vastly more efficient.”

Mr. Dewey then spoke of the importance of learning to preserve for future

use the results of reading. He said that it was intended in about two years to open a school for the training of librarians with a short, practical course, designed to give men and women of the right material and ideas a good start, which shall enable them to go on and work out the modern library idea.

In conclusion, he said :—

“Thoughtful hearers will see in these methods of study suggestion of plenty of practical work, and those interested, in the Circular of Information, issued by the library, fuller information.

“In this wholly *extempore* way I have outlined some factors of the modern library spirit, which aims to turn each of the 5,000 public libraries of the United States from a cistern into a living spring ; to go on establishing new, and improving old institutions, till we shall put in the power of all our people the means of best gratifying that thirst, delirious yet divine, to know.”

The next speaker was the REV. DR. CHARLES H. HALL, who, on being introduced, regretted that he had not accepted the President's invitation to speak before Mr. Dewey, as it was difficult to say anything instructive on the subject in addition to what had been said by the able specialist who preceded him.

When a stranger comes to Brooklyn he naturally asks, “What are the principal points of interest in your city?” We take him first to the corner of Fulton and Greene avenues, and we show him our statuary. Then we take him to Gowanus and show him where our navy ought to be, and after that with some pride we show him our two libraries. Our libraries are good ones, but one of them, as its name indicates, must always be a historical library. The Brooklyn Library is the library for the citizens of Brooklyn in the future, and the people look to this library for development into something larger, and more largely useful.

Dr. Hall contrasted the efforts of the citizens of Brooklyn and those of other cities concerning their libraries, and not much to the credit of the former. The Murphy library, he said, had been permitted to be taken from Brooklyn, and a valuable collection of theological books had recently been scattered. Brooklyn was too apathetic in regard to her libraries. People were apparently willing to lie down and admire what they had done in the past, rather than get up and grapple with the task which lay before them to provide for the future. He suggested that for specialists the rules in regard to the taking out of books should be altered to a certain extent, so as to allow them to take out a score of books at a time if necessary. It happened not unfrequently that he had to go to New York for a special book. The library ought to have money enough to buy such books as the clergy needed in preparing their sermons.

Brooklyn must wake up to her duties in this respect. Mr. Vanderbilt was putting up a \$300,000 mausoleum for himself and his family—a likely way to insure long remembrance. Yet how much longer would those citizens of Brooklyn be remembered, and how much more good would they do, who should spend \$300,000 each in branch libraries on the Hill and in the Eastern District. Though not an enthusiastic admirer of some of Boston's traits, he did admire and applaud her public spirit. He wished that Brooklyn had more of it.

MR. JAMES H. FROTHINGHAM, in behalf of about a hundred gentlemen who had contributed the necessary funds, then presented to the Library an excellent portrait of the Hon. Simeon B. Chittenden, painted by Mr. Eastman Johnson. Mr. Chittenden had, Mr. Frothingham said, made the Brooklyn Library as it



exists to-day possible. It was his munificence which gave impetus to the movement, which resulted in the erection of the present library building.

The President accepted the portrait in behalf of the Library, and said it was a noble portrait of a noble man, one who gave wisely as well as freely, and who, by his benefactions and public spirit, had done much to make, not only the Library, but Brooklyn, what it is to-day.

MR. EDWARD CARY spoke for the members of the Library, and said, in closing :—

“ This keen and penetrating conception of how best to aid the Library is characteristic of all he (Mr. Chittenden) has done for Brooklyn ; and he has done much. We accept this beautiful portrait. We have a right to hand it down to our children and our children’s children, as an expressive reminder of a noble type of the men who have worked out such glorious achievements in our land for order, and progress, and culture, and all that we call civilization.”

The meeting then adjourned.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE BROOKLYN LIBRARY.

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*To the Members of the Brooklyn Library :*

Before passing to the details of the work done during the past year in the Library, we must first say a few words in regard to the great loss the Library has recently sustained in the death of the man who did most to make it what it is.

Stephen B. Noyes was born in Brookfield, Massachusetts, August 28th, 1833. After graduating, in 1853, at Harvard, where President Eliot and Justin Winsor, now Librarian of Harvard, were among his class-mates, he served his apprenticeship as Librarian in the Boston Athenæum, under the tutelage of Ezra Abbot, and came to Brooklyn in 1858, to take charge of the Mercantile Library, then just incorporated. With the exception of the years 1866 and 1867, spent in the Library of Congress, at Washington, he passed the rest of his life in building up this Library, till it has grown from the 4,000 volumes, which he found in the second story of the Athenæum, to a collection of 84,000 volumes, carefully selected and well catalogued, in a building of its own, and with the promise of increasing usefulness and development.

Mr. Noyes possessed a wonderful knowledge of books, not merely a bibliographical acquaintance with them, but a real knowledge of their contents; and this knowledge was always entirely and freely at the service of every seeker after literary information. In the twenty-five years of his residence here, he has been in this way a great educational force in the community; and, in a city which is not strongly endowed with advanced educational institutions, his loss will be severely felt. This knowledge of books, combined with a power of untiring application and good practical judgment, enabled him to give the Library a catalogue which all authorities on the subject agree in regarding as a model of its kind.

By his fellow workers in the Librarian's profession his loss is also keenly felt. We quote from letters recently received, to show their appreciation of him.

Mr. Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard University, wrote:

"I have been closely observant of his course as a librarian; and there has not been one of his utterances, as such, but I have listened to it with respect. He was very competent in his calling, and in one of the most patent phases of a librarian's proficiency, he proved masterful and an exemplar, and his Brooklyn Catalogue has achieved an excellent reputation. For a Library of the grade of that over which he ruled, it is the best sample yet produced of that indispensable key, a catalogue. Since we both grew riper in our work, I can recall more than one talk which I have had with him, and they have left in my mind the impression of his strong good sense, and an urgent devotion to make his labors successful in the highest sense. His loss is signal to his fellows in the work, as well as to you who knew him closer."

Mr. S. S. Green, of the Worcester Library, writes:

"He was one of the best librarians in the country. Enthusiastic in regard to his work, he brought to it a well educated and technically trained mind, and great aptitude for the duties he had to perform.

"He took a broad view of his responsibilities, and in a loving spirit turned all the facilities at his command into instruments for the education of inquirers. There are comparatively few highly accomplished librarians in the country. Mr. Noyes was undoubtedly one of the few."

Mr. C. A. Cutter, of the Boston Athenæum, says:

"We all hoped to receive from him more of that remarkable catalogue which general consent has pronounced to be one of the most useful ever printed, and we had expected him to build up a great Library in Brooklyn, worthy of the second city in the greatest of our States. His place will not easily be filled."

It will not be an easy task for the Library, with the limited means at its disposal, to find a worthy successor to Mr. Noyes, and we should not attempt to fill his place till we can do so with a successor who, by combining Library experience with literary knowledge and executive ability, will fully maintain the reputation of the Library, and adequately develop its work in the large field of usefulness that lies around it.

In giving the history of the work of the Library for the year, we will adopt the order of arrangement of the Treasurer's Report, which you have just heard read, and will en-



deavor to explain the various items of receipts and expenses, so that their significance may be fully understood.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Annual members (who have paid to March 1, 1885).....	2,076
Extra annual subscriptions at \$3 .....	275
Life members by payment of \$100.....	566
"                    "          \$50.....	41
Permanent members by payment of \$500.....	287
Total membership.....	<u>3,245</u>

This shows a gain over last year of 45 members, and is the largest number the Library has ever had, except in the year 1876. The gain in receipts from membership over last year is \$360.44.

During the year, the following Life Members have died : Rev. Dr. N. H. Schenck, Jeremiah Curtis, Gen'l. H. B. Duryea, W. A. Gellatly, Abel F. Goodnow, John R. Kennaday, Geo. L. Kent, Caleb Nickerson, Richard P. Buck.

In the opinion of the Board, the number of members might be materially increased by some concerted action on the part of those who are already members. The advantages offered by the Library are so great as to make the expenditure of \$100.00 for a Life Membership certainly a desirable investment. To those who are already members, it returns an annual interest of five per cent. in saving the annual payment of \$5.00; while to others we are sure it will make a return of usefulness to themselves and others so great that they will never regret it.

The Board, therefore, recommends to the members the appointment from their number of a Committee of Fifty or One Hundred, for the purpose of increasing the membership; and while an addition to the number of Life Memberships will be especially welcome, and Permanent Memberships still more so, any addition to the number of Annual Memberships will also be thankfully received, and will materially invigorate the work of the Library.

### PROPERTY OF THE LIBRARY.

The property of the Library is vested in the Board of Trustees, who pay over the net income therefrom to the



Board of Directors. The income of the various funds during the past year has amounted to \$6,402.53.

The present value of the whole property of the Library is estimated as follows :

Library building.....	\$152,000 00
Furniture and fixtures.....	11,000 00
Books.....	110,000 00
Adjacent office buildings.....	70,000 00
Invested on bond and mortgage.....	12,000 00
<hr/>	
Total value.....	\$355,000 00

And it would probably cost more than this to replace it.

The Directors state their conviction, based on careful observation of the work done by, and the needs of, the Library, that it is more important to have the growth of the Library continue regularly and symmetrically than to abstain absolutely from incurring a debt. For the small existing indebtedness, there are valuable and useful assets in the shape of books on our shelves, to show as a set-off; and there is no hidden floating debt, as every bill against the Library, up to the 1st of March, has been paid.

We may fairly expect that the present period of business depression will not last many years longer, and that when the community is again prosperous, the needs of the Library will receive proper recognition.

#### CLASSES.

Classes have been carried on in French, under the charge of Prof. L. J. Simonin; German, under Prof. W. A. Stamm; Spanish, under Prof. Ramirez, and Phonography, under Prof. T. J. Ellinwood. The class in Italian, which had been discontinued for several years, was resumed under the charge of Prof. Frederic Garlanda. The net income from Classes was \$351.60, a gain of \$12.81 over the year previous.

#### SALARIES.

The expenditure for salaries is somewhat more than usual, owing to Mr. Noyes' absence from the Library for

half the year. The salaries paid by the Library seem very moderate, considering the amount and quality of the work given in return.

We believe that the present employees of the Library are popular with the members, and deservedly so. We are under special obligations this year to the Assistant Librarians, Mr. Willis A. Bardwell and Mr. Charles A. Horn, for the cheerful and unwearying application with which they have met the additional work thrown upon them by Mr. Noyes' long illness.

### BOOKS.

The additions to the Library have been in detail :

BOOKS.	Total Number of volumes, March 1, 1884.	Additions, 1884-85.	Worn out and sold, 1884-85.	Net Additions, 1884-85.	Total number of volumes, March 1, 1885.
History, Geography, Voyages and Travels .....	11,126	561	7	554	11,680
Biblical, Religious and Ecclesias- tical Literature.....	5,016	249	1	248	5,264
Science and Industrial Arts.....	5,729	421	8	413	6,142
Biography.....	5,901	372	5	367	6,268
Natural History.....	1,648	91	.....	91	1,739
Fine Arts.....	2,480	115	1	114	2,594
Collective Works, Encyclopedias, etc.....	1,754	89	2	87	1,841
Philosophy, Language, Educa- tion, etc.....	2,874	159	2	157	3,031
Political, Social and Economic Sciences.....	4,242	221	.....	221	4,463
Poetry, the Drama, Essays, etc..	5,547	168	2	166	5,713
Fiction.....	15,307	1,120	236	884	16,191
Works in Foreign Languages not elsewhere classified.....	9,278	43	2	41	9,319
Periodicals, bound volumes.....	6,242	213	.....	213	6,455
Miscellaneous and duplicates ...	3,013	175	.....	175	3,188
Totals.....	80,157	3,997	266	3,731	83,888

## RECAPITULATION.

Number of volumes reported last year.....	80,157
Additions by purchase.....	3,162
“ “ donation .....	558
“ “ binding periodicals or pamphlets .....	277
	<hr/>
	3,997
Deduct volumes worn out.....	243
“ sold .....	23
	<hr/>
	266
	<hr/>
Total net additions for the year.....	3,731
Total number of volumes now in Library.....	83,888

The average cost per volume of the books actually purchased during the year was over \$1.50, showing that the additions have been of a high average quality.

The collection of books continues to be made, as it has been from the beginning, on an encyclopedic plan, embracing all departments of thought and research, yet avoiding all that is valued only for sumptuousness or rarity.

The Library has 244 friends to thank for donations of printed matter. The substantial quality of the books donated is rather remarkable, out of 558 volumes only 6 being Fiction. There were also given 805 pamphlets and 759 numbers of magazines. These are all extremely welcome. Single numbers of magazines often fit in to complete a series; and pamphlets, unless preserved in a Public Library, are apt to pass out of existence altogether. To the historian of the future our collection of pamphlets may prove the most useful part of the Library.

Duplicates of books are frequently valuable for exchange with other Libraries. We have made arrangements for sending such books and magazines as we have no use for in the Library to the County Hospital at Flatbush.

Among the principal individual donors to the Library during the past year are Mr. D. Torrey, who gave a valuable collection of literature on the subject of railroads; Mr. C. P. Dewey and Mrs. M. L. Pike. To Hon. Darwin R. James we are indebted for the gift of many public documents; and the publishers of the *Eagle*, the *Union*, and the *Times*, of this city, have continued to favor us with bound files of those most useful publications.



## LIST OF DONORS—1884-85.

	Vols.	Pamphl.	Nos.
Aberhne (E. S.).....		I	
Abbott (Benj. V.), Brooklyn.....	2		
Aiken (W. H.).....		I	
Albany, N. Y., Young Men's Christian Association.....		2	
Alden (Edwin and Bro.), Cincinnati, O.....	I		
Allan ( <i>Miss</i> M. P.).....	I		
American Bar Association, E. O. Hinkley, Secretary, Baltimore, Md. ....	I		
American Colonization Society.....		4	
“ Institute of Mining Engineers.....	3		
“ Library Association.....	I		
“ Philological Association.....		3	
Amherst College, Mass.....		65	
Astor Library, New York.....		I	
Baker ( <i>Rev.</i> C. R.).....		2	
Baker (Wm. E. S.), Philadelphia, Pa.....	I		
Bank of Del Norte, Chicago, Ill.....		I	
Beers (J. B.) and Co., 36 Vesey, N. Y.....	2		
Belrose (Louis, <i>Jr.</i> ).....	I		
Benjamin ( <i>Rev.</i> R.).....	I		
Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield, Mass.....	I		
Beugless (J. D.) ...		2	
Birney ( <i>Gen.</i> Wm.).....	I		
Bogert (R. R.).....		I	12
Boston Public Library.....		3	2
“ Record Commissioners.....	2	I	
“ Register of Deeds.....	2		
Bostonian Society, Boston, Mass.....		I	
Bowdoin College.....		I	
Bowker (R. R.).....		I	
Bridgeport, Ct., <i>Public Library</i> .....		I	
Brockett ( <i>Dr.</i> L. P.).....		20	
Brooklyn (City of) <i>Bureau of Charities</i> .....		I	
“ “ <i>Board of Education</i> .....	2		
“ “ <i>Board of Elections</i> .....	I		
“ “ <i>Board of Supervisors</i> .....	9		
“ “ <i>Comptroller's office</i> .....	I		
“ <i>Rembrandt Club</i> .....		I	
“ <i>Revenue Reform Club</i> .....		I	
“ <i>Union for Christian Work</i> .....		I	
“ <i>Young Republican Club</i> .....		I	
Brooklyn Daily Eagle.....	I		
Brooklyn Daily Times.....	3		
Brooklyn Daily Union-Argus.....	2		
Brooklyn Magazine.....			8
Brown (J. H.) and Co.....	I		
Brunn (J. W.).....	I		



	Vols.	Pamphl.	Nos.
Buffalo Young Men's Association.....		2	
"    Young Men's Library.....		1	
Campbell ( <i>Hon.</i> J. M.).....		21	
Cherouny Publishing Co., N. Y.....		1	
Chicago Public Library.....		2	
Cincinnati (City of) <i>Public Library</i> .....		1	1
Clark and Maynard ( <i>Messrs.</i> ).....	1		
Cleveland (O.) Educational Bureau.....		2	
"    Public Library.....		1	1
Columbia College Library, N. Y.....		2	
Columbus (O.), <i>City Library</i> .....		1	
Comstock (N.).....	2		
Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co., Hartford.....	1		
Cook (Geo. H.), State Geologist, New Brunswick, N. J..	1		
Cook (Thos.) and Sons, 261 B'way., N. Y... ..		1	
Cooper Union, N. Y. City... ..		9	
Cornell University Library, Ithaca, N. Y.....			1
Corresponding University Publishing Co., Chicago, Ill..			2
Cotton (C. K.).....	1		
Cromwell (Ruth N.).....	1		
Dayton (O.), <i>Board of Education</i> .....	1		
Delisle (L.), Paris.....		28	
Dennison (G. A.).....	1		
Derby (J. C.).....	1		
Dewey (Chester P.), Brooklyn.....	5	6	
Dickinson (E. B.).....	2		
Domett (H. W.).....	2	6	
Ellis (John, <i>M. D.</i> ), New York... ..		1	
Falkner and Sons, Manchester, England.....		1	
Ford (G. L.).....		1	
Freshman ( <i>Rev.</i> Jacob)... ..		1	
Frothingham (James H.).....		1	
Gage ( <i>Prof.</i> J. B.), Brooklyn.....	1		
General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, New York..		1	
Gildehaus (Charles)... ..		1	
Grant (S. H.).....		1	
Green ( <i>Dr.</i> Samuel Abbott).....	2	13	
Grote (F.) and Co.....		1	
Guthrie (M.).....	2		
Harding ( <i>Rev.</i> W. M.).....		1	
Hartford (Conn.) Library Association.....			2
"    Theological Seminary.....	1		
Harvard University.....	2		3
Hoffmann ( <i>Rev.</i> C. F.).....	2		
Hall (J. H.), Brooklyn.....		1	
Inebriates' Home, Ft. Hamilton, L. I.....		1	
International Young Men's Christian Association.....		1	
Iowa State Union.....		1	

	Vols.	Pamphl.	Nos.
Jacobs ( <i>Hon.</i> John C.).....	5		
James ( <i>Hon.</i> Darwin R.).....	28	3	3
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.....			I
Johnson (Franklin), Cambridge, Mass.....	I		
Jones (Alfred).....		I	
Kansas University, Topeka.....		I	
Kennedy (P. J.).....		I	
Knoedler (M.) & Co.....	I		
Lawrence (Mass.) Free Library.....		I	
Lea Brothers.....	I		
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.....		I	
Levi Parson's Library, Gloversville, N, Y.....		I	
Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn, N. Y.....		I	
Lovell (John W.) & Co.. ..	2		
Low ( <i>Hon.</i> ) Seth.....	I		
Lowell (Mass.).....		I	
Ludlow ( <i>Rev.</i> James M.)....	I		
Manchester (England) <i>Library Association</i> .....		I	
Manning, Maxwell & Moore (Messrs.).....	I		
Marlborough (Mass.) Public Library.....		I	
Martin (C. C.). .....		I	
Mason (Edward F.), Poughkeepsie, N. Y. ....	3		
Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor.....	8	5	
"    State Library.....		I	
Maynard (Geo. W.).....		I	
Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library.....		2	I
Minnesota (University of). Minneapolis .....		I	
Miscellaneous.....	6	I	98
Mitchell Library, Glasgow, Scotland.....		I	
Moffat ( <i>Dr.</i> J. L.), Brooklyn.....		I	
Morgan (James L., <i>Jr.</i> ) .....	10	2	7
Morse Institute, Natick, Mass.....		I	
Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, So. Hadley, Mass.....		I	
New Bedford (Mass.) Free Public Library.....		I	
New Jersey Bureau of Labor Statistics, Trenton .....	I		
"    Historical Society.....			I
"    (State of).....	I		
New Orleans Times-Democrat.....	I		
New York Bar Association.....		I	
"    Free Circulating Library.....		2	
"    Historical Society, 170 Second Ave.....	4	36	
"    Mercantile Library.....		2	2
"    Produce Exchange.....	2		
"    Society for the Suppression of Vice.....		I	
New York (State of). Department of State.....	26		
"    " <i>State Library</i> .....	I		
Nicholson (A. W.).....	I		
Noyes (John B.).....	6		

	Vols.	Pamphl.	Nos.
Noyes (S. B.).....	I		
Onderdonk (Henry, <i>Jr.</i> ), Jamaica, L. I.....	2		
Otterson ( <i>Dr.</i> W. C.).....		34	110
Parks (Gorham) .....	I		
Peabody Institute, Baltimore, Md.....		I	
Peabody Institute, Danvers, Mass.....		I	
Peabody Institute, Peabody, Mass.....		I	
Peabody Museum, Cambridge Mass.....			I
Peaslee (J. B.).....	I	I	
Peck (A. L.).....	I		
Philadelphia Apprentices' Library Co.....		I	
"    Library Co.....		2	
"    Mercantile Library .....		I	3
Philbrook (H. B.).....		I	
Phillips Exeter Academy.....	2	2	
Phillips (Henry, <i>Jr.</i> ).....		I	
Pike ( <i>Mrs.</i> M. L.).....	11		
Pike ( <i>Col.</i> N.).....	I		
Poor (H. V. and H. W.).....	2		
Pope (A. A.).....	I		
Pope Manufacturing Co., 12 Warren St., N. Y.....			8
Porter (Wm. J.), Brooklyn.....		I	
Pray (Jos. M.), Brooklyn, N. Y.....			5
Princeton College Library.....	I		
Providence, R. I., Athenæum. ....		I	
"    "    Public Library.....		I	
Pullman, Ill.....		I	
Putnam ( <i>Rev.</i> A. P.).....		3	
Q. P. Index, Bangor, Me.....		I	
Rawle (W. H., <i>LL.D.</i> ).....		I	
Raymond ( <i>Dr.</i> J. H.).....		I	
Redwood Library and Athenæum, Newport, R. I.....		I	
Reeve (J. P.).....	I	3	
Roberts (W. C.).....	I		
Robinson ( <i>Hon.</i> Wm. E.).....	8		I
Rochester, N. Y. (University of).....		I	
Rooney (John H.).....			4
Ropes ( <i>Hon.</i> Ripley) .....	4		
Royal Society of Canada, Montreal.....	I		
St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile Library.....		I	
"    "    Public School Library.....		2	I
St. Vincent's College.....		I	
San Francisco (Cal.) Mechanics' Institute.....	I		
"    "    Odd Fellows' Library.....		I	
Savory (J.).....		I	
Sawyer Free Library, Gloucester, Mass.....		I	
Second Adventist Society, Battle Creek, Mich.....	I		
Smith (H. Allen).....	2		



	Vols. Pamphl. Nos.		
Smithsonian Institute.....	3		
Somerville (Mass.) Public Library...		I	
Springfield (Mass.) City Library.....		I	
Staples (O. G.).....	I		
Storrs ( <i>Rev. Dr. R. S.</i> ).....	I		
Stuart ( <i>Mrs. R. L.</i> )... ..	I		
Swansea (England) Public Library.....		2	
Taunton (Mass.) Public Library.....		I	
Thayer (Eben.)... ..	137	94	248
Thomæ ( <i>Miss V. C.</i> ).....	4	94	
Thomann (G.), Brooklyn.....	I		
Thompson (D. G.).....	2		
Thwing ( <i>Rev. Dr. E. P.</i> ).....		6	
Toronto Public Library.....		I	
Torrey (D.)... ..	7	116	160
Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.....		2	
Tuffley (E. W.).....		7	
Tufts College.....		I	
United States <i>Bureau of Education</i> .....		7	2
“ <i>Bureau of Statistics</i> .....			4
“ <i>Chief of Engineers</i> .....	4	2	
“ <i>Civil Service Commission</i> .....		2	
“ <i>Consular Department</i> .....		I	
“ <i>Department of the Interior</i> .....	105	I	6
“ <i>Department of the Navy</i> .....	2	I	
“ <i>Department of State</i> .....	10		12
“ <i>Department of the Treasury</i> .....	5	4	4
“ <i>Department of War</i> .....	3	2	
“ <i>Fish Commission</i> .....	I		
“ <i>Mint</i> .....	2		
“ <i>Patent Office</i> .....	8	5	45
“ <i>Postmaster General</i> ... ..	2		
“ <i>Signal Service</i> .....		2	
Vandyke ( <i>Rev. J. H., D. D.</i> ).....		2	
Vermont (University of).....		I	
Wallace (James P.).....	12		
Waterhouse ( <i>Prof. Sylvester</i> ), St. Louis.....		5	
Waterston (Robert C.), 71 Chester Square, Boston.....	I		
Watertown Free Public Library.....		I	
Wills ( <i>Hon. David Ames</i> ).....		17	
Wells ( <i>Dr. P. P.</i> ).....	I		
Wendt (C.), Brooklyn.....	I		
White (Wm. A.), Brooklyn.....	16	45	
Wickes (Stephen, <i>M. D.</i> ), Philadelphia.....		I	
Wilcox (H. K. W.).....	I	I	
Wilkin (R. J.)... ..	I		
Wilmington (Del.) Institute.....		I	
Wilson (John).....	I		



	Vols.	Pamphl.	Nos.
Woburn (Mass.) Public Library.....		1	
Worcester (Mass.) Free Public Library.....	1	1	
Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.....		2	
Yale College.....		3	
Yordy (E. B.).....		1	
Zincken (C. F.), Leipzig.....		1	
Totals .....	558	805	759

## CIRCULATION.

The circulation of books for home reading during the year ending December 31, 1884, has been, as compared with the previous year :

	1883. Volumes.	1884. Volumes.
First Quarter.....	30,951	31,285
Second Quarter.....	27,637	26,837
Third Quarter.....	19,161	21,389
Fourth Quarter.....	25,920	27,437
Total for the year .....	103,669	106,948

These figures show a gain for the year in circulation of 3,279 volumes over the preceding year. The only falling off was in the second quarter (during the months of April, May and June), and seems fairly attributable to the financial disturbance which reached a climax about the middle of May.

The largest number of volumes put in circulation on any one day was 660, on November 29th; the smallest, 165, on August 20th.

The average number of books taken out by each member during the year was 33. The use of the Library by the annual members is more active than by the Permanent and Life Members, and would doubtless average, except in July and August, a book a week to each annual member.

## REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The use of books in the Library for reference is as useful a part of the Library's work as the home reading. A year ago shelves were erected on two sides of the Library hall, on which were placed for direct access by members, such books of reference as are most frequently wanted, such as encyclo-

pedias, dictionaries, atlases, bound volumes of Brooklyn and New York newspapers, etc.

The facility of access by all members to these very useful books has been so much appreciated, that recently shelving has been put up on the two remaining sides of the Library hall, for additional books of the same character. Among those now added, are several of the best Catalogues of other Libraries, Larousse's Dictionnaire Universel, Statutes of New York from 1850, Revised Statutes of the United States, Directories of other cities, a file of the New York *Herald* in 109 volumes, from 1852 to date, the Census Reports, Political Almanacs, etc., etc.

If there were no other books in the Library but the 1,000 on these open reference shelves, we believe that the members who use them would get their money's worth of usefulness from the Library. The total number of books consulted in the Library is estimated at 55,000, making a total use in circulation and reference of 162,000 volumes during the year, exclusive of the use of periodicals and newspapers in the Reading Room.

It is the aim of the Directors to maintain for the Library the reputation it has won of being one of the best "working" Libraries in the country; that is to say, a Library where men who have literary work to do can do it to the best advantage.

In this connection, a reference is appropriate to an enterprise that has been for some time under way in the Library, and we hope will soon be put in shape to be available to our members. Its object is to utilize our files of newspapers (except those of this city and New York) by clipping from them all items likely to be of interest for reference, classifying them under several hundred general heads, and subdividing these again into minor subjects. Mr. H. K. W. Wilcox suggested it to Mr. Noyes about a year ago, and has since been in charge of the work, a separate room having been placed at his disposal. He liberally donated to the Library a large collection of newspaper clippings of his own, extending over the last twenty years. The plan met with Mr. Noyes' cordial approval. Mr. Wilcox has now accumulated a large amount of interesting material, and the Library Com-



mittee are considering the best way of making it accessible, whether by mounting and binding, or by the use of boxes. Probably the latter would more readily allow of the constant additions necessary.

#### BINDING AND BULLETINS.

During the year, 277 volumes have been added to the Library, by binding up periodicals, newspapers, pamphlets, etc., and 1,987 volumes have been rebound. The total expenditure for binding has been \$1,683.39. The cost of binding the 109 volumes of the *New York Herald* was \$3 per volume.

The number of volumes placed in paper covers was 17,425.

Bulletin No. 20, of additions to the Library, was published on December 1st, 1884, and Bulletin No. 21, on March 1st, 1885.

Hereafter the Bulletins will be published regularly in the months of March, September and December. The Bulletins have been sent free to all members, and to several thousand others, at a total cost of about \$700.

#### CATALOGUES.

The Catalogue of our Library continues to be in fair demand. During the year fifty-three copies have been disposed of. One copy went to Italy, for the use of the Commission of the Italian Government, engaged in re-organizing their Public Libraries, and another to Japan. The apparent net cost of the Catalogue to our Library has been about \$7,000.

#### LIGHT.

The consumption of gas in the Library Building for the year ending March 1st, was 870,000 feet, at \$2 per 1,000, costing \$1,740. The cost of gas for the Eastern District Branch was \$146.60. We have paid this year a bill of about \$900, for gas consumed during the year previous, thus swelling the total expenditure for gas to \$2,724.60.

#### READING ROOM.

The average daily attendance at the Reading Room is estimated at 300, making a total of over 90,000 for the year.



## BUILDING.

The Building has been maintained in good repair. A large safe for the safe-keeping of the books of accounts, etc., of the Library, has been purchased at an expense of \$315.

Additions, as already stated, have been made to the shelving in the Reference Hall, and shelving is now being placed in one of the front rooms in the top story of the building, where it is proposed to place the files of unbound newspapers which now encumber the shelves and the floor, on the upper story of the Library hall.

No other especial expense on the building is in contemplation, but, if our means permitted, it would be a great comfort to students in the Reference Department if all the floors in the Library hall were covered with linoleum, so as to prevent the noise now caused by walking over the wooden floors.

## BRANCHES.

The local deliveries at drug stores in various parts of the city have been continued, as this system is found very useful by our members who reside at a distance from the Library.

The expense of these deliveries is estimated at : Car fares, \$130 ; boys' time, \$100 ; total, \$230.

The number of volumes delivered in this way was 5,211.

## EASTERN DISTRICT BRANCH.

There has been a moderate gain in the use of this Branch. The number of readers there during the year was 12,371, against 10,226 last year. Increase, 2,145.

The circulation of the Branch has been :

Drawn from the Main Library, .....	2,104
“ “ its own shelves, .....	3,858
	<hr/>
Total.....	5,962

The cash receipts at the Branch have been \$787.58, and, in addition, a number of members who use the Branch have paid at the Main Library. The total receipts at the Branch might fairly be estimated at \$1,000. The expenses have been about \$1,250. The rent of the room is met by the

Brooklyn Library Association of the Eastern District, and for the ensuing year is at the rate of \$480 per annum.

The thanks of the Library are especially due to Mr. Geo. V. Tompkins and Mr. J. P. Reeve for the interest they have shown in the welfare of the Branch.

The only bequest made to the Library during the year was by a resident of the Eastern District, Mr. Loftis Wood. The 7th section of his will is as follows :

“I direct my said trustees, after paying out or setting apart the several amounts above mentioned, to pay out of the residue of my estate, remaining undisposed of, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to the Brooklyn Library, and I request that said sum be invested by the trustees of said corporation, and the income applied to the purchase of books and periodicals for said Library.”

It is expected that the payment of this bequest will be made in May; and as it comes from an Eastern District man, it seems proper that the income from it should be expended for the benefit of the Eastern District Branch. If it were possible for our friends in the Eastern District to bestir themselves, and make this \$10,000 the nucleus of a Building Fund of \$50,000, they might confer a great benefit on that section of the city by the erection of a Branch Library Building.

Beginning with a modest structure, that would cost, perhaps, \$20,000, with land adjacent for future expansion, and a well selected library of 10,000 volumes, there would certainly be from the start a very useful work done, and the future would doubtless build further on the foundations thus laid.

We have confidence that before very long the enterprise and public spirit of the citizens of the Eastern District will bring this thing to pass.

#### THE LIBRARY AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

At a recent meeting of our Board, an important resolution was adopted, appointing a Special Committee to confer with the Committee on Libraries of the Board of Education, and giving them power to conclude an arrangement by which the use of the Library and its Branches should be

given to the Teachers of the Public Schools, and, under their supervision, to some of the more advanced pupils, for one year, for the sum of \$3,000.

The experiment proposed is, it will be observed, merely a tentative one. If, at the end of a year, it is not found to work to the mutual satisfaction of the two Institutions, it can be discontinued.

As the number of teachers in the Public Schools is about 1,600, and the number of pupils in the Central Grammar School, alone, about 500, of the average age of seventeen, it will be seen that we are entering on a large field, and that the expense for additional copies of books, additional employees, etc., may prove onerous to the Library; but the probable advantages to the whole city are so great that we should not look at the subject in a niggardly or timorous spirit.

The education of our teachers ought not to stop when they graduate from the Central Grammar School. They must keep on learning in order to teach with the best results. The total expenditure by the city on its Public Schools is over \$1,300,000 yearly. How insignificant, in comparison, appears the expenditure of \$3,000 for the use of a Library of 84,000 volumes, and yet, how greatly it will probably add to the value of all the rest of the expenditure! The mechanic who has the best outfit of tools will do the best work. Books are the teacher's tools, and a collection like ours, intelligently used, will be of great value to the teachers, and, through them, to their 65,000 pupils.



REMARKS  
OF  
MR. JAMES H. FROTHINGHAM,  
AT THE  
FUNERAL SERVICE OF STEPHEN B. NOYES,  
MARCH 15, 1885.

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It is permitted to few of us to hold any considerable place in the service of our fellow men or to contribute largely to the advancement of the community in which our lot is cast. To some the opportunity is wanting, to others the suitable gifts, to others the willing mind. Immersed in the whirl of the great cities, engrossed in the bewildering competitions of business and in the pursuit of livelihood or of riches, we are fortunate in uneventful lives, and happy if we preserve kindly and just relations with those around us to the end. It was a singular chance, therefore, that led the young Harvard graduate of thirty years ago to a congenial task in the service of a newly-organized library in our city, for in that task there lay for him opportunity,—he had inherited from a scholarly parentage the sufficient gifts—and never, surely, was there brought to any service a more willing mind. The service thus begun enlarged as time went on and became a life-work, and in that life-work, faithfully and lovingly done, Stephen Buttrick Noyes became a man widely known and universally esteemed, an authority in his chosen profession, a power in the intellectual life of this community and a benefactor to us all.

Mr. Noyes clearly perceived that in the young library to which he had come was the germ of a great institution, one that should become a prominent factor in the educational work of the growing city, and to realize this idea he gave himself unreservedly for twenty-seven years, counting, as he always did, the brief period passed in the Congressional Libra-

